Minutes
EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP
Board of Supervisors Meeting
June 17, 2026

Call to Order

Supervisor Sup Chiabotti called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Sup David Chiabotti, Sup Jackie Monahan-Junek, Sup Skip Carlson, Sup Brian Harrington Clerk Keely Drange, Treasurer Mary Beth Monte and Deputy Clerk Joseph Junek were in attendance.

Unless otherwise noted, motions carried unanimously.

Agenda

Sup Carlson moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve the agenda for the June 17, 2026 Board of Supervisors meeting with additions. Motion carried.

Additions include:

Request from Friends of the Boundary Waters bike event to use hall parking lot

Approval of training hours for Deputy Treasurer

Minutes

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek to approve the May 18, 2026 Workshop minutes, the May 20, 2026 Board of Supervisors minutes and the June 2, 2026 Board of Supervisors Special Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Communications

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup Carlson to approve the communications list. Motion carried.

Citizens' concerns

None at this time.

Reports

Clerk
The preferred method to receive invoices is via email whenever possible and please use the reimbursement form for receipts so they don't get lost in the inbox and the proper account codes can be used.

Option B language for the ballot as been has been sent to the county and conformation email from St. Louis County received.

Treasurer
Payroll Check numbers 12365-12383. $4389.05.

Claim Numbers 5338-5355 and check numbers 12384-12386; 12388-12390; 12392-12394; 12401-12402 for a total of $19,301.44.

The total for payroll and claims is $23,690.49

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve the payroll, claims. Motion carried.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the treasurers report. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds
Sup Harrington mentioned that when the fire department gets an ATV or boat they may need more space in the lower hall for storage. The township may want to think of an additional storage building to move the tables and chairs into.

Sup Carlson explained that according to OSHA a janitorial service is the legal duty of care to maintain a safe premises for visitors. Sup Carlson feels that is an obligation for the township to have a janitor to prevent legal issues that arise from poor sanitation.

The no wake zone buoy appeared at the edge of the parking lot one day. It is believed that is from Lake One. It may be the lakes association responsibility to set out the buoys with the Sheriff's approval.

Fire: See report.

The Auxiliary bought the water rescue equipment that was on the fire department equipment list. The board will accept the equipment donation at the next meeting.

Roads:
Sup Carlson requests residents to contact him if road conditions become an issue.

The surface stabilization is in the works for later this summer but no date has been set yet.

Land:
The board received a conformation from the head of St. Louis County Land and Minerals that they received the township's letter.

Website and Broadband:
Nothing at this time.

Emergency Preparedness:
ENCEP held a meeting yesterday, with road ambassadors, Jessica Oldenburg and Teresa Floberg. Chief Ted Kruger may need to look into finding someone to lead ENCEP. The township is in need of more road ambassadors.

The ENCEP group agreed to that there should be three meetings a year,1 per quarter, and skip a winter meeting.

Jessica is putting together a brush pick up 50% of the township up from 30%. That would be 4 weekends of brush drop off. The hours would be from 10 to 3. The brush pick up piles need to be larger so the equipment has an easier time picking them up. The roads will be Bear Head State Park Road and spurs, Sunshine Road and spurs and Walsh and spurs, Swanson shores and its spurs. Brush Drop off dates August 22 and 23, August 29 and 30 and Sept 12 and 13.

The Township may be able to use the last of the previous grant for firewise mitigation around the townhall.

Outreach and Networking:
Sup Monahan-Junek will work with Clerk Drange to put something together for constant contact and the website regarding option B that will be on the ballot in November.

Finance:
Clerk Drange will present the resolution allowing the township to use electronic fund transfers to the board.

Old Business

Town Hall Rental Agreement
Sup Monahan-Junek will send Sup Chiabotti her suggestions for further revisions to the town hall rental policy.

Park Land Discussion
Sup Monahan-Junek gave a recap of what has been done on the park land, including the acceptance of outlot 5 and 7. The township did not accept outlot 2 or lot 1/block 1. Once Park Land has been accepted, the township has an obligation to maintain it in a safe manner. If the township does not accept the Park Land, they are not obligated to maintain it. If the township tries to exert authority over unaccepted Park Land, the attorney has advised that the township may have liability due to intervening.

It is the township's attorney's opinion that the township can lease the Park Land. Legal fees to draft such lease agreements may be around $1,000. The township attorney explained to Sup Monahan-Junek that the township must decide up front how it will lease the Park Land with consideration to stipulations such as cost, whether it will be "first come, first serve" and check with the DNR with rules on docks. Also need to decide how the potential lease areas will be determined, whether with a simple map or surveyed/updates to surveys where pins have been removed.

Sup Carlson respectfully disagrees with the township attorney. Sup Carlson explained that according to MN statute 462.0258; Park Land cannot easily be sold, leased or converted to non-Park Land use without a public hearing and state approval.

Sup Monahan-Junek asked the township attorney if it is possible to give back the Park Land that has been accepted. The attorney found no case law to rely on and no definitive option to unaccept or vacate the Park Land. The township may try to unaccept the Park Land via resolution. If the resolution was passed, the Park Land would go back to the original donor.

Sup Monahan-Junek would like to find a remedy for the Park Land because as it stands there is no resolution for the adjacent property owners.

We do not own the land but we are "trustees" to the accepted and unaccepted Park Land. However, by accepting Park Land we are obligated to maintain in a safe way and we have some control over its use.

No action will be taken on the Park Land by the township at this time.

New Business

Firewise Grant for Townhall
There is money left on last year's Firewise grant. There is $4,500 in planning and assessment, $7,900 for mitigation and $1,500 in education within that Firewise grant.

Dutchman's Tree Service has given a quote of $7,000 (to be taken from the mitigation section) to do Firewise mitigation around the hall. However, this work may not be able to do it by the end of June when the grant needs to be spent down.

$900 available for firewise assessment materials if Firewise assessors can come up with something.

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to spend $7000 on firewise mitigation around the town hall and $900 for firewise assessment materials, assuming that it is 100% covered by the grant with no financial match from the township. Motion carried.

Austin, with Dutchman's tree service, asked the township to see if the bike path can be closed during the work. The township cannot close the bike path but Austin may be able to have a watchman on the path to stop traffic while dropping trees.

Adding fire department coverage for Mud Creek Rd outside of the Township boundary
Sup Monahan-Junek wants to see the contract be specific to the township rather than a template from St. Louis County. The contract should include EMS and road access only properties as the township does not have a way to access water only property.

Sup Monahan-Junek would also like to know how many parcels and structures are included in this area and how much extra fire and state aid will be given for this area. She would also like to understand what the contribution to firefighter's PERA would be if this area is formally accepted.

Sup Harrington will follow up with Phil Chapman to get a contract that addresses those concerns and is specific to our township.

Proposal from Streetar Consulting for Ordinance Administration
The township must follow all state laws regarding zoning.

Bob Streetar, Planning Consultant, will put together the ordinance administration policy and enforcement policy and present it to the township.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve up to $2,720 for the proposal from Bob Streetar to draft and present an ordinance administration policy and enforcement policy. Motion carried.

Weed Inspection
Sup Harrington attended an online noxious weed training. By state law, all township supervisors are weed inspectors and the State noxious weeds law is overseen by the County.

There are a dozen weeds that need to be eradicated and none of those are within the township. There are weeds that need to be monitored and try to prevent seed spread. Much of this type of weed is on county property. Not much is being done by county and state to mitigate weeds. The township will continue with how it has been operating until given further direction.

Friends of the Boundary Waters Bike ride
In the past we have asked other bike groups to use our lower parking lot for bike events. We have asked events to clean up after themselves and to not block the lower hall door. Sup Chiabotti will follow up with Riley with the FOTBW.

Sup Chiabotti moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to follow up with Friend of the Boundary Waters group to discuss event set up for the bike event on August 22.

Approval for Deputy Treasurer Approval training hours
Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve up to 10-15 training hours for a deputy treasurer.

Sup Concerns
Sup Harrington asked when the board will revisit the topic of short-term rentals. This topic will be discussed next month.

Sup Harrington will be attending next month's meeting via Zoom.

Adjournment
Sup Carlson moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:03PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Keely Drange, Clerk